SDMS DocID 2210927

ORIGINAL

Community Participation

To be determined.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Little Elk Creek pilot project is develop a collaborative, cross-programmatic approach to address the groundwater contamination problem and support development and reuse needs of the surrounding community. The focus of this project will be on re-utilization of the industrial area with an effort to cleanup as much contamination as possible with the available resources provided and protect public health.

Long-term Objectives

The long-term objectives for the Little Elk Creek pilot project are to:

- Create a collaborative working environment between state and federal cleanup programs to address a widespread contamination problem affecting multiple properties.
- Educate EPA and State agency staff on the One Cleanup Program and Land Revitalization principles and incorporating these principles into the pilot project.
- Synthesize data analysis from different types of environmental studies and assessments to establish common cleanup goals and standards for all sites in the area.
- Investigate innovative approaches to address liability concerns across a multi-site area.
- Prioritize cleanup activities to meet the community's needs for reuse of the area.
- Establish short and long term measures of success.
- Create a webpage to showcase progress.

Short-term Objectives and Tasks:

The following short term objectives and tasks will be conducted to support the long term project objectives identified above:

1. The Technical Workgroup will analyze data from site investigations to identify cross contamination issues and to develop understanding of the overall groundwater contamination problem facing the geographic area. The Technical Workgroup will make recommendations on cleanup priorities in the area and share cleanup approaches applied for each site.

Tasks:

- Review existing data from site investigations.
- Organize data and technical information into a common format.
- Evaluate pathways of exposure.
- Prepare a fact sheet summarizing groundwater conditions in the project area and recommend additional sampling to fill data gaps.
- Prioritize investigations and cleanups based on both protection of human health and environmental conditions and community reuse needs.
- Ensure coordination of cleanup activities.
- Coordinate with the ACOE as necessary on site cleanup activities.

2. The Revitalization Workgroup will engage the local community to ensure that community redevelopment needs are incorporated into the cleanup process. The Revitalization Workgroup will keep the community updated and informed on progress of the pilot.

Tasks:

- Contact the Cecil County Health Department and the Cecil County Offices of Economic Development and Planning, Zoning, Parks & Recreation to discuss the pilot project.
- Identify community groups, including development and industrial interests, environmental groups, local officials and neighborhood associations and solicit their input into the goals of the project and the action plan.
- Review long range zoning and development plans for the area.
- Investigate development opportunities for the area and identify ways to foster reuse for the community development plans for the target area
- Develop a public participation plan including press events, fact sheets, website, etc to publicize our successes and to encourage participation in the pilot.
- Counsel the community on sources of federal and state funding or other forms of assistance to support the cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated sites.

3. The Technical Workgroup and Revitalization Workgroup will work together to identify potential approaches to address liability concerns across a multi-site area.

Tasks:

- Review "Ready for Reuse" technical determinations piloted in other EPA Regions. Consider adaptation for a multi-site area.
- Prepare Ready for Reuse technical determinations for suitable sites in the area either during or post cleanup.

4. Establish a regular schedule of meetings to discuss the status and progress of each site and to make sure individual actions are in-line with the overall goals. The purpose of these meetings are to provide a forum to promote cross-programmatic communication and to discuss expectations for each action (e.g., cleanup objectives, work schedules, institutional controls, reuse needs, etc).

5. A final report will be written to summarize findings and lessons learned on One Cleanup Program approaches from the pilot study.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Project Task	Target Due Date	Who	Status
Review existing technical data	March 10, 2004	Technical Workgroup	Done
First coordination meeting; identify data gaps	March 2004	Technical Workgroup	Done
Establish a project meeting schedule	March 2004	Technical Workgroup	Done
Meet with County to discuss pilot project	April 2004	Revitalization Workgroup	Done
Develop a community involvement plan	April 2004	Revitalization Workgroup	Done
Develop a webpage on EPA Region III's website	May 2004	Revitalization Workgroup	Done
Review long range development plans for the area	May 2004	Revitalization Workgroup	Done
Develop a common data platform and shared database to store data.	June 2004	Technical Workgroup	In progress

Project Task	Target Due Date	Who	Status
Prepare a fact sheet on groundwater conditions in the area	September 2004	Technical Workgroup	
Prioritize investigations and cleanups in the area to focus resources	September 2004	Technical Workgroup	
Prepare "Ready for Reuse" Technical Determinations for sites during and post cleanup	As appropriate	Technical Workgroup	
Prepare Final Report	?	Revitalization Workgroup	

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

1. Number of potential human health exposures to contaminants reduced (number of persons or number of wells)
2. Number of releases of contaminants from identified sites to the Little Elk Creek watershed reduced.
3. Number of acres of contaminated sites in the pilot area used productively.
4. Number of jobs created or retained in the pilot area associated with reuse of contaminated sites.
5. Number of residential housing units constructed on or near contaminated sites.
6. Number of sites which can show human exposures to contamination are "under control".
7. Number os sites which can show migration of contaminated groundwater is under control.

PROJECT FUNDING

The Technical Workgroup will identify additional sampling or technical needs for the project. Existing state and federal program staffing and resources will be considered first to meet funding needs. OSWER anticipates that a small amount of funding, around $40,000, may be available in fiscal year 2004 to support this project. Monies will not be obligated until May 2004 at the earliest. If additional funding sources are needed, the following potential sources could be considered:

Federal Resources